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ALTON RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

MEDICAL OFFICER'S ANNUAL
REPORT.

1947.

ALTON,
HANTS,
June, 1948.

To : THE ALTON RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

The following is my Report for this District for the year ended 31st December, 1947.

The area of the District is (in acres)	...	...	65,526
The population, 1931 census (including 4,562 military)			20,455
The population estimated in 1947 (civilians only)	...		18,900
The number of inhabited houses is	...	...	5,265
The Rateable value is	...	...	£150,717
The sum represented by a Penny Rate is	...	...	£609

According to the figures supplied to me by the Registrar General, the Births and Deaths are as follows :—

	Total	M.	F.
<i>Live Births</i> —Legitimate	440	239	201
Illegitimate	43	21	22
<i>Still Births</i> —Legitimate	8	3	5
Illegitimate	1	1	—
Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated resident population mid-1947	—	25.5	
Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births	—	26.0	

Deaths — The total number of deaths belonging to this district was 246—of these 100 died outside my District.

Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated population — 13.0

Deaths from Puerperal causes ... Nil

Deaths of Infants under 1 year ... 28

Deaths from Cancer ... 29

Deaths from Measles ... Nil

Deaths from Whooping Cough ... Nil

Deaths from Diarrhoea ... 1

Deaths over 70 years of age numbered 126—of these 61 were over 80 and 8 were over 90 years of age.

General Provisions of Health Services for the Area :

The Public Officers are :—

(1) *Medical Officer of Health*—Part time Officer.

(2) *Chief Sanitary Inspector and Building Surveyor*—Wholetime Officer. He holds the Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute and is an Associate Member of the Institute of British Engineers.

(3) *Additional Sanitary Inspector & Assistant Building Surveyor*—Whole-time Officer.

(4) *Additional Sanitary Inspector* — Whole-time Officer.
Engaged part-time on Housing Survey.

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area :—

Water. The Wey Valley Water Company provides main supplies in the Parishes of Bentley, Binsted, Chawton, Farringdon, Froyle, Grayshott, Headley, Kingsley, Selborne and Whitehill.

Extension of main supplies by the above Company have been agreed for the Parishes of Four Marks, Newton Valence, Ropley and Worldham; also for further supplies in Parishes already served. Work on the laying of mains in the Parishes of Four Marks and Ropley commenced during the year.

The Herriard and Lasham Water Company provide main supplies in the Parishes of Bentworth, Lasham, Medstead, Shalden and Wield.

Extension of main supplies by this Company in Parishes already served have been agreed.

The Mid-Wessex Water Company provide a supply to part of the Parish of Shalden and further extensions have been agreed.

Water supplies in the Parishes of East Tisted and West Tisted are mainly from private Estate sources.

POSITION AT 31st DECEMBER, 1947.

Number of houses in the District	...	5,265	
ditto	provided with domestic supplies during the year	...	153
ditto	having piped supply	...	2,772
ditto	not having piped supply, but within 100 yards of existing main supply	...	600
ditto	which will be within 100 yards of proposed main extensions	...	1,321
ditto	not capable of being supplied from present or proposed mains extensions		572

Drainage and Sewerage.

Sewerage. The Parish of Bentley is seweraged, the effluent being treated by broad-land irrigation. An extension has been constructed to serve the Council's new Housing Site.

The Temporary Housing Site at Lindford, in the Parish of Whitehill, is served by a sewer laid to discharge into the Military Treatment Works at Bordon.

Schemes have been prepared for sewerage areas of the Parishes of Binsted (Rowledge), Whitehill (Greatham), Bentworth, Lasham, Selborne (village), Newton Valence, Farringdon, Ropley, Medstead, Wield, East Tisted, Shalden, Binsted (village), Binsted (Bucks Horn Oak), Chawton, also for a further extension in the Parish of Bentley. In addition, schemes are ready for the Parishes of Whitehill, Headley and Grayshot¹.

Drainage. There have been only minor changes affecting closet accommodation throughout the District during the year, due to the installation of individual septic tank systems.

Scavenging and Salvage. Salvage collections are made fortnightly in two Parishes, Grayshott and Whitehill, and monthly in the remainder.

Full refuse collections are undertaken in defined areas of the Parish of Whitehill. Night soil collections are made in the Parish of Grayshott, by contract, and nightsoil removal and cesspool emptying in defined areas of the Parish of Whitehill.

All collections, with the exception of the one contract mentioned above, are carried out by the Council's own vehicles and staff.

A general scheme for full refuse collection throughout the whole of the District has been approved by the Council and will be put into operation as soon as the necessary vehicles are acquired.

During the year, a purpose made "Dennis" combined cesspool and night soil vehicle was purchased and put into service in the Whitehill areas and arrangements have been made for the Grayshott night soil contract to be terminated and for that area also to be serviced by the Council's own vehicle and staff.

Hop-Pickers' Accommodation. Necessary routine inspections were carried out during the year, no outstanding matters arising.

New hutments for 68 families were erected in the Parish of Bentley and 24 in the Parish of Worldham, mainly to replace existing accommodation which, owing to bad design and defective conditions, were not worthy of reconstruction.

Sanitary Inspection of the Area.

Nuisances. Routine inspections have been carried out throughout the District and nuisances arising have been abated.

Housing. House-to-house inspections under the Rural Housing Survey have continued throughout the year.

Number of inspections during the year	869
Total number of inspections to 31-12-47	2,691

Milk Supply. Inspections of Dairies and Cowsheds have been made ; new producers have been added to the Register and the premises, where necessary, have been brought up to the required standard.

Overcrowding. Cases of overcrowding have been dealt with to bring about improvements, consideration of such cases being taken in the allocation of new dwellings erected by the Council.

Moveable Dwellings. Visits and inspections have been made of such dwellings and sites.

Meat and other Foods. Visits and inspections of shops and stores have been made and quantities of foodstuffs have been condemned as unfit for human consumption. Co-operation with Ministry of Food Salvage Officers has led to the salvage and use of condemned foodstuffs for animal feeding and other purposes.

Factories. Inspections under the Factories Act, 1937, have been made as follows :—

Number of factories on register	...	93
Number of inspections during the year	...	158
Number of cases in which defects were found		13
Number of defects remedied	...	13

Prevalence of and Control over Infectious and Other Diseases.

Beyond cases of measles and whooping cough, the year has been a healthy one.

There were 40 cases of measles and 52 cases of whooping cough.

There were eight mild cases of scarlet fever scattered over the District.

The majority of schoolchildren have been inoculated against diphtheria.

		Total cases notified	Admitted to Hospital	Deaths
Scarlet Fever	...	8	4	—
Diphtheria	...	—	—	—
Enteric Fever	...	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	3	3	1
Pneumonia	...	9	7	7

There were five cases of acute anterior poliomyelitis notified and treated in hospital—no deaths.

Cancer. There were 29 deaths from cancer.

Scarlet Fever	1	1	2	—	2	2
Age Groups	3	4	5	10	15	20

Prevention of Blindness. No cases were notified of ophthalmia neonatorum.

Tuberculosis. New cases and mortality during 1947 :—

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—
25	—	5	1	—	1	—	—	—
35	3	4	—	1	1	1	—	—
45	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
55	4	2	—	—	1	—	—	—
Totals	9	12	2	1	3	1	1	—

No action was taken under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, or under Section 62 of the Public Health Act, 1925.

Scabies. During 1947, five families, comprising 19 adults and 9 children, were treated for scabies at the Joint Isolation Hospital.

I should like to add that your Sanitary Inspector, Mr. Bennett, has rendered very valuable services during the year.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

(Signed) H. CURRER WILLIAMS,

Medical Officer of Health.

